CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An active noise cancellation system for use in a vehicle air induction system, comprising:

a speaker that selectively generates a noise sound control that controls the engine sound heard inside the vehicle;

a controller that selectively drives the speaker to generate the noise control sound; and

a communication portion that is adapted to communicate a selection from an individual indicating one of several available engine sounds to the controller which responsively drives the speaker to achieve the selected sound.

2. The system of claim 1, including a user communication interface supported on the vehicle that communicates with the communication portion and wherein the user communication interface includes an input portion that allows an individual to indicate a desired one of the available engine sounds

3. The system of claim 1, including a user communication interface that comprises a modem and wherein the controller communicates with the modem.

4. The system of claim 1, including a user communication interface that comprises an electronic personal digital assistant device and wherein the communication portion controller communicates with the electronic personal assistant device.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the communication portion communicates wirelessly with a communication device that is independent of the active noise cancellation system.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the communication portion has an identifier that is accessible by a user through the independent communication device.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the identifier comprises a phone number that is accessible by another telecommunication device for communication with the active noise cancellation system.

8. A method of controlling a perceived engine noise profile using an active noise cancellation system in a vehicle air induction system, comprising the steps of:

determining a user preference for at least one of a plurality of available engine noises profiles; and

automatically adjusting a noise control sound provided by the noise cancellation system responsive to the user preference so that a resulting engine noise profile heard by the user corresponds to the user preference.

9. The method of claim 8, including programming a controller to selectively drive a speaker of the noise cancellation system in one of a plurality of predetermined manners, each of the manners corresponding to one of the available noises.

10. The method of claim 9, including programming the controller to drive the speaker to produce a sound that causes the resulting engine noise to be one of a sport engine noise or a quiet performance engine noise.

11. The method of claim 8, including communicating with a user interface supported on the vehicle to determine the user preference.

12. The method of claim 8, including communicating with a remotely located communication device that is independent of the noise cancellation system to determine the user preference.

13. The method of claim 12, including using wireless communication.

14. An active noise cancellation system for controlling a perceived engine noise profile that is heard by a driver of a vehicle, comprising:

a speaker that generates at least one of a plurality of available noise control sounds that correspond to a plurality of available noise profiles;

a controller that selectively drives the speaker such that the perceived engine noise profile corresponds to a user selection of one of the available noise profiles; and

a communication network that facilitates communication between an individual and the controller.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the communication network includes a cell phone chip associated with the controller, the cell phone chip providing a unique communication identifier to the controller such that an individual can communicate with the controller through the network.

16. The system of claim 15, including a tracking module that tracks use of the communication network and provides information regarding access to the network to selectively adjust the noise profile.

17. The system of claim 14, wherein the communication network includes a user communication interface supported on the vehicle that communicates with the controller and wherein the user communication interface includes an input portion that allows an individual to indicate a desired one of the available noise profiles.

18. The system of claim 14, including a user communication interface that comprises a cell phone and wherein the communication network receives user input from the cell phone.

19. The system of claim 14, including a user communication interface that comprises an electronic personal digital assistant device and wherein the communication network receives user input from the electronic personal digital assistant device.

20. The system of claim 14, including a unique identifier and wherein the communication network uses the identifier to facilitate communication between a user and the controller through a remote communication device that is independent of the noise cancellation system.